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HISTORY  
OF  
NEW HAVEN  
ILLINOIS

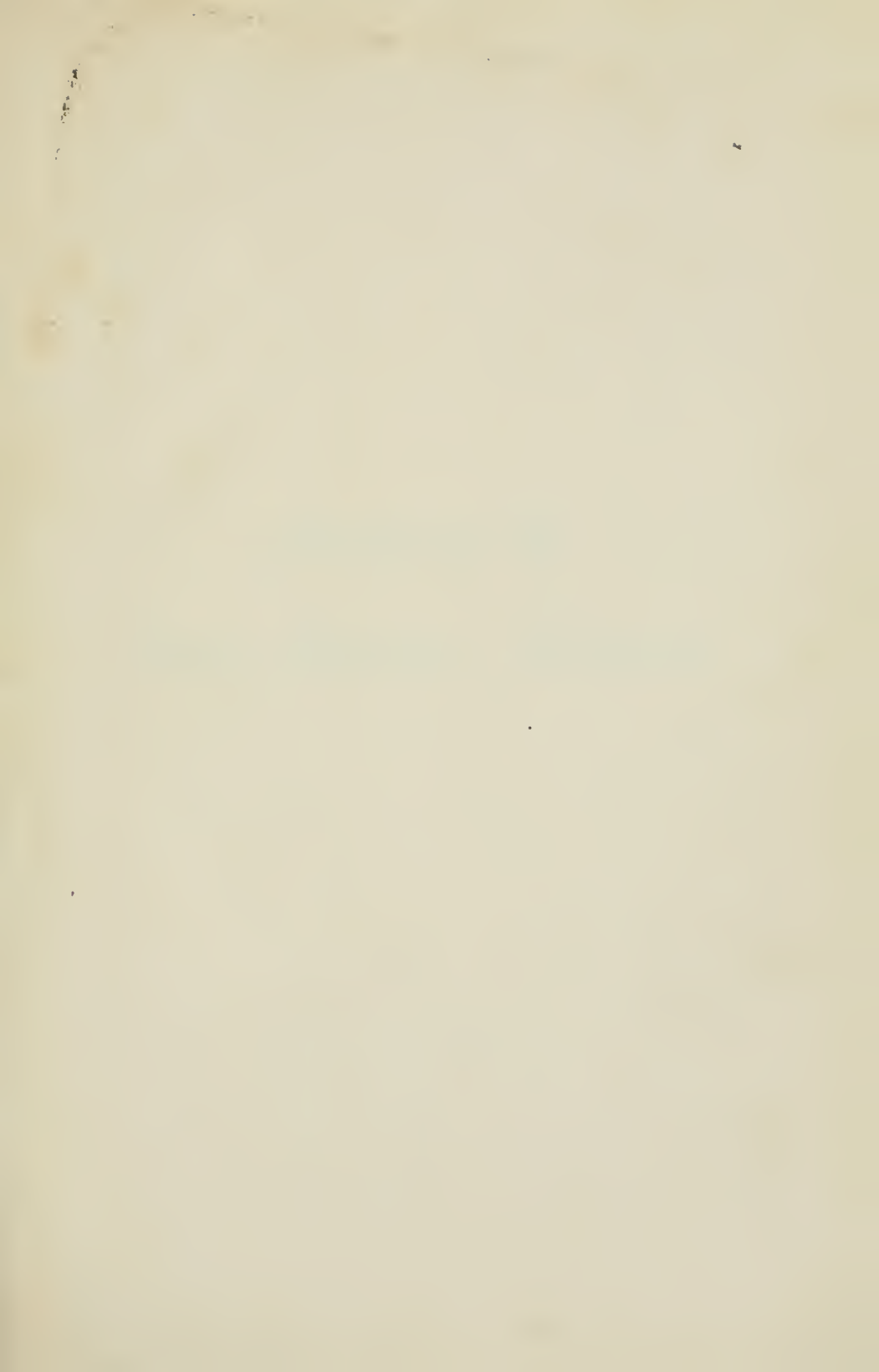
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JIMMIE CHASTAIN

JOSEPH H. JONES









*History Of*  
*New Haven, Illinois*





HISTORY  
OF  
NEW HAVEN, ILLINOIS

By  
JIMMIE CHASTAIN

*"Old Man River he just keeps  
rollin' along."*

—JEROME KERN



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Let not ambition mock their useful toil,  
    Their homely joys and destiny obscure,  
Nor Grandeur hear, with a disdainful smile,  
    The short and simple annals of the poor.

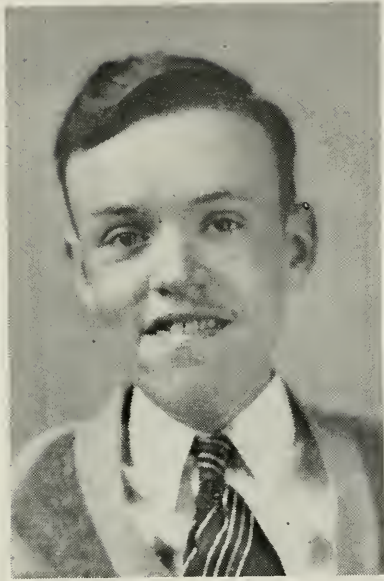
GRAY'S ELEGY

## PREFACE

This book was written as a project in teaching Jimmie, who, as many of you well know, is paralyzed, both hands and both feet, and has been for about ten years. It was entirely his idea, but as we worked it grew much like the proverbial snowball. Through this project we have learned something of reading, writing, spelling, language composition, history and geography and their relation to everyday life in his home town. Writing is much more of a task for Jimmie than many of you may realize and his perseverance and good spirit are highly commendable. Many changes have taken place here since the good old days and every one will agree it is a much better place to live now than it was then. We appreciate your advice, encouragement and help. If you enjoy reading the book as much as we have enjoyed writing it, it is time well spent.

—ELIZABETH HOLLAND

New Haven, Illinois,  
March 10, 1943.



### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am very grateful to all the people who have helped me in any way with this book. Without your help this book would not have been possible.

Especially do I thank my teacher, Elizabeth Holland.

Sincerely yours,

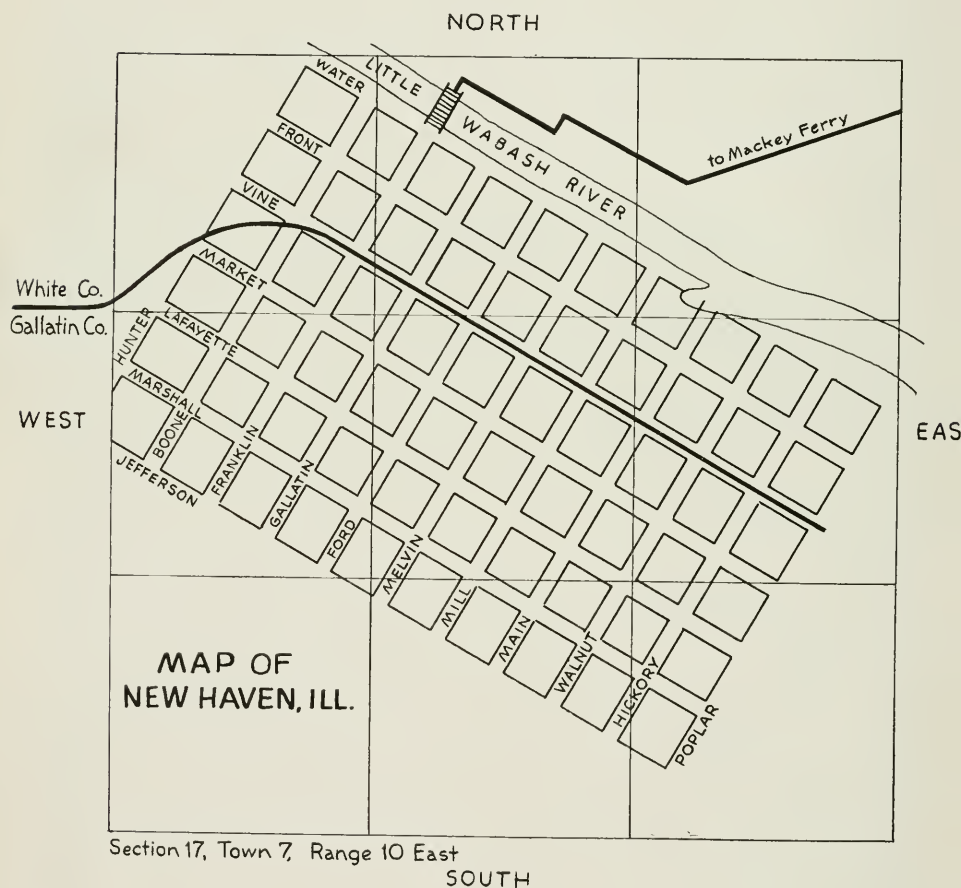
JIMMIE CHASTAIN.

*“What is history but a fable  
agreed upon?”*

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

# CONTENTS

	Page
Map of New Haven .....	12
The Founding of New Haven .....	13
Map of Illinois .....	14
Location of New Haven .....	15
Map of Gallatin County .....	16
Boone's Fort .....	17
New Haven's Early Days .....	18
The Catalpa Tree .....	20
Religion .....	21
Education .....	24
New Haven Public School Teachers .....	28
To My Pupils .....	29
Schoolday Memories .....	30
Old Man River .....	31
The Little Wabash River .....	34
Floods .....	35
The Flood of '37 .....	39
Fishing .....	40
The U. S. Post Office .....	41
The Banks .....	43
The Doctors .....	44
The Nox Theatre .....	45
The Graddy Hotel .....	46
The Pavement .....	47
The Pecan Market .....	50
Business as Usual .....	54
Boom Town .....	56
Township Organization .....	58
New Haven Has Gone to War .....	59
Chronology of New Haven, 1812-1943 .....	61
Letter from Department of Commerce .....	65





NEW HAVEN proudly claims to be the third oldest town in Illinois, and assuming that the town was started when Joe Boone settled here, this claim is correct.

“Joe” Boone, as he is still affectionately called by the people here, was a brother to the more famous Daniel Boone, the first settler of Kentucky.

August 24, 1814, an entry of land was recorded to Johnathan Boone as follows: Section 17-Township 7 Range 10-East. This is the present site of New Haven. (See map opposite page.)

Kaskaskia was the first town and it does not exist as a town at present. Nor does old Shawneetown—the second oldest. A new Shawneetown has been built on higher land since the 1937 flood. Therefore, New Haven is now the oldest town in Illinois.

## STREETS

### NORTH TO SOUTH

Hunter	Mill
Boone	Main
Franklin	Walnut
Gallatin	Hickory
Ford	Poplar
Melvin	

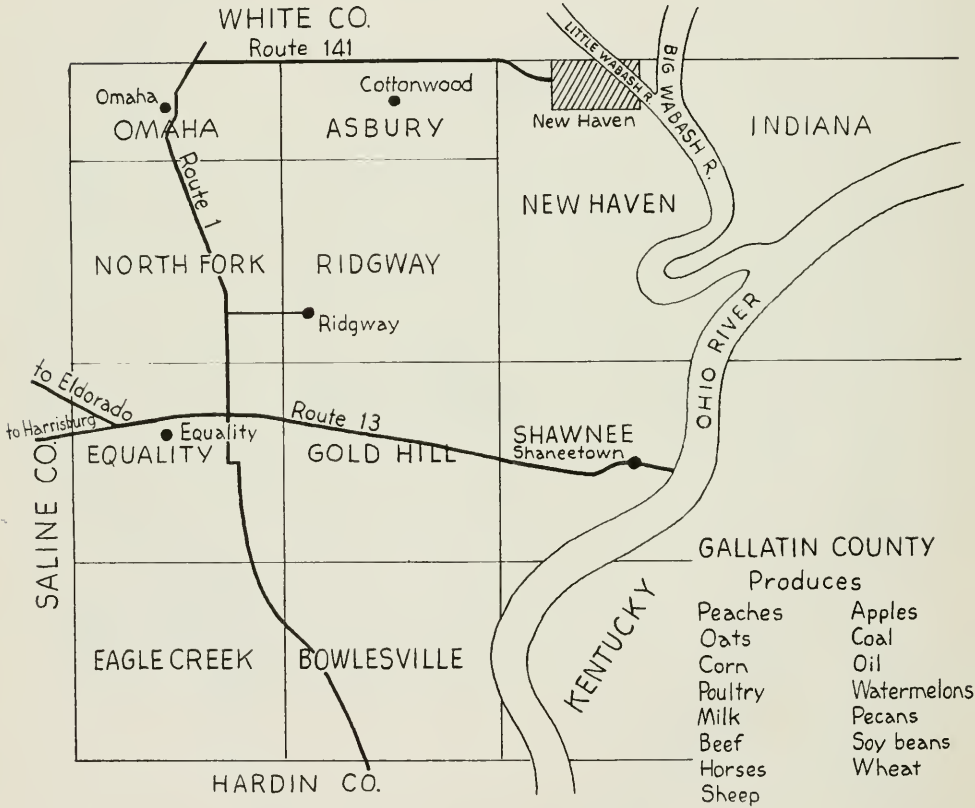
### EAST TO WEST

Water	Lafayette
Front	Marshall
Vine	Jefferson
Market	



## NEW HAVEN

New Haven is in southeastern Illinois on the Little Wabash River. It is surrounded by the fertile "bottom soil" that is noted for its corn. The native woods along the river are filled with nuts and New Haven probably sells more pecans than any other town of its size. Besides these main crops there are always fresh river fish on sale here. Within the last few years several commercial oil wells have been developed within a few miles of town. These have added much to the prosperity of the little village and have given it a feeling of encouragement it had not had since the depression of 1931 and the flood of 1937 had taken their toll. The village has about 600 inhabitants, all very loyal American citizens, most of them direct descendants of the hardy pioneers who came here more than a hundred years ago. (See map opposite page)



## BOONE'S FORT

Around this land was built a solid stockade from the trees which grew so abundantly along the river, and the place was named Boone's Fort. The white people stayed inside this fort most of the time, for protection from the Indians and the wild animals. Most of the time people traveled on the river in those days. It is hard for us to imagine life inside a stockade like this, where there were no trucks to bring bread, milk, and vegetables several times a week, but let us think back. The men helped each other and log houses were built for homes. A mill was built inside the fort. Most of the cloth and all the clothing were home-made. Home-made tallow candles gave light. Vegetables and fruits were those that could be grown at home. Canning was not generally known then, so people ate what was in season.

Fresh meat then, as now, was a problem. Almost every family had brought a cow, and maybe a few hogs, but wild game was much more plentiful then than it is now and much more in demand. Fishing, hunting, and fur trading were not sports then, they were big business.

In September, 1812, Ninian Edwards, then governor of Illinois Territory, laid out this county and named it in honor of Albert Gallatin, a very distinguished citizen and Secretary of the Treasury under Jefferson; but the northern boundary was not definitely marked and Boone's Fort was then in White County. This line was not settled for many years, in fact it was not until 1854, long after Illinois became a state, which was in 1818.

(See map of Gallatin County on opposite page.)

## NEW HAVEN'S EARLY DAYS

JONATHAN BOONE remained here but a few years. He came in 1812, probably on account of the family relationship. Perhaps he needed more elbow room, or perhaps he saw an opportunity to make a profit on his investment, at any rate he sold



Home of Samuel Dagley and Jane Webb Dagley, near New Haven. Part of the house is still standing. Mr. Henry Dagley inherited it from his father and it is known in the neighborhood as the Uncle Henry Dagley place. The Samuel Dagley who built this house was the son of the Samuel Dagley who came here in 1812.

(Picture Courtesy Mrs. J. G. Black, Carmi, Ill.)

his land, his mill and stockade to Paddy Robinson and Roswell H. Grant and moved into the wilds of Arkansas where he remained the rest of his life.

So far as we have been able to trace, Mr. Grant came here about 1818. Mr. Grant and Mr. Robinson made a survey of the town, had it laid out into 261 lots, each 70 feet by 140 feet. The streets were laid out at right angles with each other, those running nearest north and south running parallel to the Little Wabash. The name was changed from Boone's Fort to New Haven.

We have a great deal of respect and admiration for these first settlers, because we know that those years were very hard. Harder than many of us would care to endure. Unfortunately some of their names are not now available, and much of their interesting history has died with them. Therefore who gets the



honor of being the first settler is not definitely known, but probably the Dagleys came as soon as anyone. Samuel Dagley came here in 1812, the same year Jonathan Boone came. There was a close relationship. Mrs. J. Boone was a daughter of Thomas Dagley. It was therefore not unusual for Daniel Boone to come to New Haven and it is interesting to know that he spent his twenty-first birthday in the Dagley home.

Samuel Dagley was the son of Thomas Dagley, a native of Ireland and baggage master for General Washington during the Revolution. When Samuel Dagley came to New Haven he was a mature man, wealthy, courageous, physically strong, and the father of fifteen children. He was a leader in the formation of this community and all the activities showed the strength of his character for the good of his town.

\* \* \* \*

These paragraphs were taken from the old White County History published in 1887. "New Haven has been incorporated twice, first in 1837 and again in 1873.

"The present (1887) board of trustees are

Leroy Hinch, president	J. P. Decker
James Dossett	George W. Gervney
Thomas A. Haley	Robby McFadden
Mathais Epley, treasurer	J. L. Greenlee, clerk
W. P. Aldridge, police magistrate	W. S. Dale, constable

"The town has about 400 inhabitants and its present lack of prosperity is attributed by some to its saloons, but is living in the memory of the past and in the hope of future glory which will doubtless come to pass after a railroad has crossed the Little Wabash at this point."

No buildings are left now in New Haven that date back to the time of Boone's Fort, but the last part of the old Sheridan Hotel was not torn down until 1933. Before it was finally destroyed the state historical society, sponsored by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, took a picture and had the building measured so that a replica could be built. In its prime there were many rooms and the building was almost a block long. It was a combination of hotel, tavern, and old-fashioned Irish grocery. We are told that Lincoln ate his noon meal here and changed horses on his way to meet Douglas in debate during the winter of 1857-58. It was built in 1816 and '17 while the old stockade still surrounded Boone's Fort. In those horse and buggy days there was a livery stable on the west side of Melvin Street between Vine and Front.

## THE CATALPA TREE

For more than a hundred years one of the landmarks of New Haven was a large and beautiful catalpa tree which stood



The catalpa tree, which grew from a riding whip—stuck in the ground by one of Joe Boone's daughters.

The Little Jim steam roller mill.

Neither the tree nor the mill is now standing.

(Picture Courtesy Seymore Hughes)

on the bank of the river near the south end of Boone's mill. This tree is said to have grown from a riding whip carelessly stuck into the ground by one of Boone's daughters on her return from a horseback ride.



Seymore Hughes

Many of the people who live in New Haven now, in 1943, can remember when this tree was struck by lightning and practically destroyed. Seeing an opportunity to preserve the wood in the form of keepsakes for posterity, Seymore Hughes made and sold walking canes from the wreck of this old tree. It is said he made quite a lot of money and many of the canes are in homes here.



## RELIGION

One of the strongest influences, if not the strongest, in a community is the church. The first settlers of New Haven were evidently of the Presbyterian faith. At this time the Presbyterian churches were all united as they are supposed to be now, and, of course, were of Scotch descent. The Presbyterian church is very rigid in its belief and in its ritual and expects strict obedience to all its rules from its members.

The first record of any church organization here was in 1829 when church was held in first one home and then another. The minister came about once a month, riding horseback from Shawneetown. Some people walk-



**United Presbyterian Church**

In foreground grade school band parade on Pecan Day, 1941.

ed for miles to go to church and people of any denomination were welcome at these meetings. From this union of denominations grew the Union Ridge Church several miles west of town. This was the first church in the neighborhood and had many members from New Haven.

Some years later the people of Cumberland, Tennessee, separated from the Presbyterian Church on matters of doctrine, especially on the matter of the saving of children and the amount of education necessary for the minister. Many churches followed this movement and Union Ridge Church was one of them.

In 1868 the members from New Haven left Union Ridge Church to establish one of their own. This church was organized by Rev. R. M. Davis and the present building was dedicated November 12, 1868. The first elders were Andrew Melvin, G. W. Overton, B. J. Mize, and J. L. Purvis.

The charter members were Andrew Melvin, G. W. Overton, Margaret Good, Susan Hanmore, Lucinda Mitchell, B. T. Mize, Emily Mize, John McIlrath, Martha McIlrath, Mary Mitchell, J. L. Purvis, Hannah Martin, Martha Melvin, and John Weaver.

Mrs. Mary Mitchell Grady, who passed away September 16, 1941, was the last of these charter members to go. This

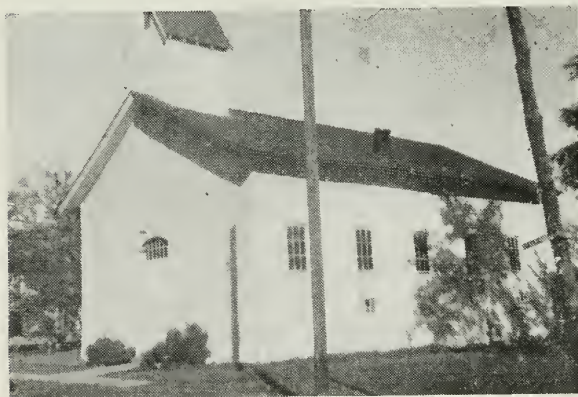
church has always been active, and, although it has been without a minister part of the time, there has always been at least one weekly service held in the church. Mr. Lewis Bayley has been a leader in Sunday School for many years and he is largely responsible for keeping the services alive while there was no regular minister. Rev. Marion Lemon was pastor during 1939 and 1940.

Several years ago the Presbyterian churches voted to become united and this church joined the union, being known now as a United Presbyterian Church instead of a Cumberland Presbyterian.

\* \* \* \*

When the town of New Haven was laid out, a lot was left "for a place of worship". The Methodist Church is on this site at present. The first church built on this lot was a one-room log cabin. The church services held here were more or less of a revival nature and were not of any particular denomination,

neither were they very regular.



First Methodist Church

In 1869 the present Methodist Church was built. It was to be financed, as usual, by gifts from the congregation. Rev. John Warren donated one hundred dollars and there were several gifts. Seven hundred was borrowed on a note from Mrs. Margaret Slater,

but when the money was to be repaid she destroyed the note and said the money was a gift. This was of course much the largest single gift.

The building was dedicated in the fall of 1869, Rev. Warren and Rev. Whitaker officiating. In 1875 a festival was held in the church. At this time a festival in a church was very unusual, and this was the first affair of its kind to be held in New Haven, and we are told that pineapple was served for the first time at this dinner. The money from this "social" was used to buy an organ for the church.

It seems impossible now to get a complete list of the members, but we list here some of the charter members. Mrs. Margaret Slater, Mrs. Mary Gilpin, Mr. William Aldridge, Mrs. Ida

Smith, and Capt. Stone. Rev. Warren, Rev. Jesse Johnston and Rev. Hitchcock were among the first ministers. Rev. Hitchcock and Capt. Stone also taught school here.

The church has had some periods of real activity and its influence can be seen throughout all the community, but unfortunately there have been some long periods of inactivity, especially when the church was without a regular minister. During one of these times the building, which was seldom in use, was loaned to the Pentecostal congregation to hold meetings. They held the building for several years and no doubt accomplished a great deal of good, but under the leadership of Rev. Homer Young, who came here in 1927, the building was taken back by the Methodist congregation, who repaired and repainted it and have had regular services there since then.

Rev. Young was called to Johnston City in 1938. He was followed by Rev. Richardson, who stayed about two years. Next came Rev. Linder, whose revival in New Haven converted a large number of people, and was especially successful in his work with young men. He resigned in the summer of 1942 to join the U. S. Navy. Rev. Henderson was appointed to fill the vacancy, and with the help of Mrs. Henderson, who is especially talented in music, has a very active church at the present time.

\* \* \* \*

From March 15-20, 1943, was held the sixth annual School of the Prophets. This is an interdenominational organization of the Pentecostal Church. It was under the direction of Reverend Mears and attracted some 200 ministers and about the same number of visitors from this and nearby communities. Many people are undoubtedly reached by these meetings who do not attend other church services. Their church is on Market Street just off Main and is under construction. They have at present a basement, including furnace and banquet room, and on the first floor a large congregation hall. It has been built only since the flood of 1937. It is built only as contributions are collected. Pentecostal services are held weekly during the year but the annual school of the prophets is the event which attracts the most people.

The First Apostolic Church was organized since the flood. The building was constructed in 1942. It is on Ford Street between Vine and Front. Mr. and Mrs. Joda Burris donated the ground. The trustees are as follows: George Merritt, Ermil Ridley, Tive Emmerson, Elbert Martin, and Mrs. Ola Burris.

Regular meetings are held on Saturday and Sunday nights, usually to a full house. Sometimes the regular minister, Rev. Martin Holtzelaw, is absent and Mrs. Melton fills the pulpit.



## EDUCATION

The first school in New Haven was in a log cabin at what is now Main and Front Streets. It was a subscription school taught by Lizzie Boyd in the winter of 1848-49.

The next teacher was Samuel Murray, an old soldier and sailor who was very popular, because of his interesting stories.



The large white frame building on Market Street was built in 1870. George H. Pharr was the first teacher in this building. School was held here until 1937. It was then condemned because of the damage done by the flood. The building stands idle at present.

The other subscription school teachers were: Levi H. Hitchcock, a Methodist preacher, Rodger Frame, Jesse Fuller, Lucy Rowe and last William Carter.

These subscription schools lasted almost ten years, with six teachers, but they did not have school every year, nor did they have very good attendance.

Subscription is a very poor substitute for our free

system, as it has developed through the years, but it was undoubtedly better than no school, and it pointed the way toward common school education for all the children of all the people.

Can you imagine this first school where all the pupils were beginners regardless of age? From 1814 until 1848 is 34 years, long enough for one generation to grow up without any formal education. Let us not say that none of them could read or write. Perhaps many of them could not, but some of them could. They had been taught by their mothers as was the custom of the day; but mothers had long busy days then, with their large families and small, inconvenient, crowded homes. These mothers, who felt the need of a school for their children, would be the ones who supported the subscription schools.

Picture the one-room log cabin, with benches for seats, and benches for desks, simply a board on two log stumps. One end of the room too cold, the other too hot, heated by a stove, maybe an open fireplace. For equipment a book and a slate, but that is not all. The pupil took with him the desire to learn.

Public school was held in the town house from 1855 until 1870. At this time, this was a one-room log building, stove heated, lighted by few windows with one door, and said to be "on the hill".

A good schoolmaster, then as always, was the best equipment the school had. Mr. George Knight, one of the teachers, came on horse back over the dirt road, from his home about six miles west of town, arriving before daylight, in order to get the room warm and the quill pens made before "books". The books were a McDuffy's reader and a Ray's arithmetic, and a slate.

The enrollment was sometimes as many as sixty ranging in age from six to twenty. The older pupils often repeated the eighth grade several times, or studied the higher branches, if the teacher had the time and ability to teach it. He was then "past the pictures", but he had indeed got his education the hard way.

\* \* \* \*

## OUR NEW SCHOOL



New Haven's Public School

We are all justly proud of our beautiful modern new school building. It was one year in construction and cost twenty-five thousand fifty-four dollars, but the taxpayers of New Haven had to pay only eight thousand one hundred fifty dollars. This

great saving was made possible through the use of W. P. A. labor and twenty-five cents on every dollar's worth of material was paid for by the federal government. This means that, DIRECTLY, we paid only about one-third of the actual cost.

On February 1, 1939, one hundred eighty pupils and four teachers proudly took possession. The teachers were Paul McGill, principal, 7th and 8th grades, Horace Gail Mobley, 5th and 6th grades, Miss Pearl Stallings, 3rd and 4th grades, and Mrs. Joanna Rider, 1st and 2nd grades.

The school board were: Ted Parker, president, Walter Browning, secretary, Howard Pyles, John Blackburn, Walter York, Jake Woods and Horace Stallings, members.

To these men we owe a large debt of gratitude, because they gave so willingly and so largely of their time for more than a year without pay.

\* \* \* \*

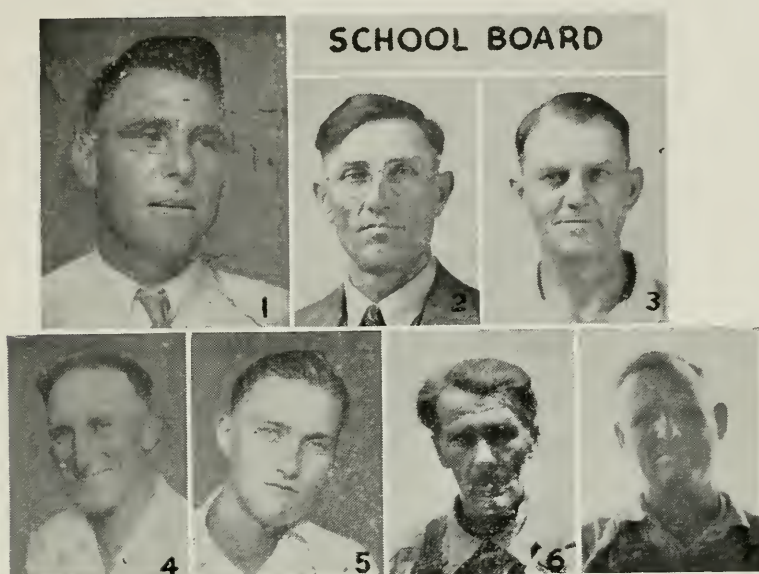
## EXTRA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

In August, 1936, Mr. C. A. Gavitt, Grayville, Illinois, organized a mixed band at the New Haven School. This was both a community and a school band; but when Mr. Paul McGill, the school principal, took the band over he allowed only school pupils to belong to the band. Mr. McGill directed the band from 1937 until 1941; and again in 1942-43.

Very few grade schools near here have a band so our competition was with high schools; therefore our band had to work very hard for recognition. The band lost a good deal of the ground it had gained during the year 1941-42 while Mr. Lowe was here, but in 1942-43 Mr. McGill came back from Ridgway two days a week and the band is doing very well at present.

Mr. McGill also interested the boys in basketball and with the help of Mr. Mobley as coach they organized two teams from the school and a town team. The first year they played on an outdoor court which of course could not be used in bad weather. Interest was so keen that the new school building has a beautiful gymnasium which is always crowded at a game. A fine spirit of cooperation and good sportsmanship is being developed. This will help to make the boys grow to be better citizens.





President of School Board—Elmer Browning.

Secretary—Elvis Bennett.

Members—Howard Pyles, Clyde Goforth, Gilbert Jones, Walter York, John Blackard.

About a year before the new school building was started the district was consolidated with the other districts in the river bottoms. The children were brought to school the first year in a car driven by Harrison Clifford. Then a truck was used covered with a tarpaulin. Charles Wooten used this a while as did Roy Armstrong. Louis Mitchell owned the school bus for a few years. In 1940 the school board bought a bus and Cecil Bosaw drives it. About twenty-five children use this bus.

New Haven is in a non-high school district. Most of the students go to Ridgway to high school, but some have gone to Norris City and Carmi. Charles Bradford drove the first high school bus, which took the underclassmen to Omaha and the seniors on to Ridgway. Louis Mitchell has owned two high school buses, one went to Ridgway and the other through Herald to Carmi. He also owned one which took patients to the eye clinic at Shawneetown. This year Otis Chastain drives the Carmi High School bus which is privately owned, and Ray Wiggins drives the Ridgway High School bus which belongs to the school. Almost all the New Haven pupils now take advantage of their opportunity to get a high school education.

# NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

- 1855-56—Capt. E. P. H. Stone.  
 1856-57—Walte H. Bunn.  
 1857-58—George U. Cortwright.  
 1858-59-60—John McMasters.  
 1860-61-62-63—J. F. Malden.  
 1863-64—Mr. Fitzsimmons, who left to go to the Civil War. Mr. Perkins finished out the term.  
 1864-65—George B. Knight.  
 1865-66—Winslow Bailey.  
 1866-67-68-69—Rev. John McIllrath.  
 1869-70-71—George H. Pharr, first teacher in new school.  
 1871-72—George F. Eaton.  
 1872-73—James R. Campbell, Miss Wilson (2 teachers).  
 1873-74—John G. Ferrell, Miss Watkins.  
 1875-76—J. C. Wooten, Prudence H. Bozeman.  
 1876-77-78-79-80-81 — George H. Pharr, Prudence H. Bozeman.  
 1881-82-83-84-85-86 — A. M. Garrison, Prudence Bozeman.  
 1886-87-88—Clint Smith, Mrs. Sarah Twoey.  
 1888-89—John Greenlee, Mrs. Long.  
 1889-90—John Greenlee, Mrs. Twoey.  
 1890-91-92—John Greenlee, Hattie Bainum.  
 1892-93-94-95-96 — John Greenlee, Hattie Bainum.  
 1896-97-98 — John Greenlee, Mrs. Sarah Twoey.  
 1898-99 — John Greenlee, Mrs. Maud Greenlee.  
 1899-1900-01-02 — John Greenlee, Miss Parsons.  
 1902-03-04 — John Greenlee, Miss Parkhurst.  
 1904-05—Mr. Brown, Pearl Price.  
 1905-06—Mr. Young, Pearl Price.  
 1906-10—The records are lost.  
 1910-14—Mr. James, Grace Kinsall.  
 1914-15—Mr. Young, Dora Mills, Lena Bruce (three teachers for the first time).  
 1915-16 — Mr. Greene, John Price, Grace Kinsall.  
 1916-17—Mr. Greene, John Price, Luella Woolridge.  
 1917-18-19 — Mr. Holmes, John Price, Luella Woolridge.  
 1919-20 — Mr. Clint Sanders, Mrs. Holmes, Joanna Rider.  
 1920-21 — Mr. Holmes, Ruth Clemmons, Luella Woolridge.  
 1921-22 — Mr. Stuckey, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1922-23—Mr. Harold Allen, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1923-24 — Alvin Karch, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1924-25 — Hubert Jordan, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1925-26—Sophia Adkisson, Everett Nelson, Joanna Rider.  
 1926-27 — Sophia Adkisson, Marie Medlin, Joanna Rider.  
 1927-28 — Sophia Adkisson, Marie Medlin, Joanna Rider.  
 1928-29—James M. Downen, Joanna Rider, Sophia Adkinson.  
 1929-30—Henry S. Williams, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1930-31—E. Ralph Williams, Goldia Hays, Joanna Rider.  
 1931-32—E. Ralph Williams, Goldia Hays, Joanna Rider.  
 1932-33 — H. S. Williams, Goldia Hays, Joanna Rider.  
 1933-34—A. M. Stills, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1934-35-36 — Arthur M. Stills, Lillian Bruce, Joanna Rider.  
 1936-37 — Paul McGill, Marie Medlin, Joanna Rider.  
 1937-38—Paul McGill, Marie Medlin, Joanna Rider.  
 School closed in January for the term on account of the flood, the worst one in the history of New Haven.  
 1939-40—Paul McGill, H. G. Mobley, Pearle Stallings, Joanna Rider. Four teachers for the first time. The old building was condemned on account of the damage of the flood, but was used during the construction of the new building.  
 1940-41—Paul McGill, Charles Laster, Pearle Stallings, Elizabeth Holland, Joanna Rider.  
 1941-42—Paul Lowe, H. G. Mobley, Pearle Stallings, Joanna Rider, Elizabeth Holland.  
 1942-43—H. G. Mobley, Gaines Bayley, Pearle Stallings, Joanna Rider, Elizabeth Holland. Paul McGill came from Ridgway High School twice a week to teach music.  
 March 1—H. G. Mobley resigned to work in an ordnance plant in Evansville. Mr. Bayley became principal and La Vaughn Soward filled the vacancy.



## 25 YEARS' SERVICE



Mrs. Joanna Rider

## TO MY PUPILS

I MEET YOU ON THE PLAYGROUND  
I MEET YOU AT THE DOOR  
BUT 'TWO'N'T BE LONG NOW  
'TILL I'LL MEET YOU THERE NO MORE.

I WON'T SEE YOUR SMILING FACES  
AS YOU STUDY AT YOUR DESKS  
I'LL NOT BE THERE TO GUIDE YOU  
IF YOU FAIL TO PASS YOUR TESTS.

I'LL NOT HEAR YOU ON THE PLAYGROUND  
AS YOU SQUEAL IN CHILDISH GLEE  
BUT I'LL ALWAYS THINK OF YOU  
WHEREVER YOU MAY BE.

I'LL BE GLAD WHEN YOU ARE LUCKY  
I'LL SORROW WHEN YOU LOSE  
AND I'LL PRAY YOU MAY BE SUCCESSFUL  
WHICHEVER ROAD YOU CHOOSE.

AND WHEN LIFE'S DRAMA SHALL BE ENDED  
I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU "THERE"  
THAT YOU MAY SAFELY CROSS THE BOURNE  
WILL BE MY FERVENT PRAYER.

## SCHOOL DAY MEMORIES—1940

In the old school house I am dreaming  
Of the happy days gone by.  
My schoolmates playing ball upon the green  
Or coasting down the big hill high  
I vision again their happy faces  
When the school bell called us in.  
I hear again the songs we sang  
Ere our studies we began.  
Again I see the dear old teacher  
His head bowed low in prayer  
Alas, he and twenty-one of us  
Have answered the roll call over there.

Dear old school house, a new one takes your place  
A little way across the hill from where you now face  
And soon a troop of boys and girls  
Will idly pass you by,  
Unmindful of deserted looks  
Which all around you lie.  
Till in years to come, some ancient muse  
May sit, as I do now  
With limbs that feel the touch of age  
And snow upon the brow  
And view the new school house  
As I am doing now.

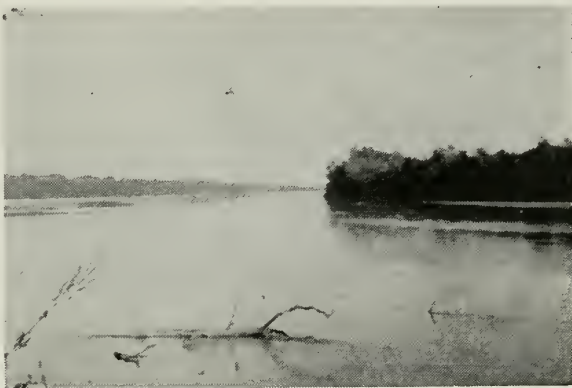
Dear old school house  
Your days are nearly o'er  
I, too, am going fast  
To that other shore.  
And may I meet my classmates dear  
Who gathered around your door.

---

These poems are only two of many written by Joanna Rider, Jimmie's first teacher. They speak very plainly of her love for her pupils and her work in the schools in New Haven. Mrs. Rider has taught twenty-five years here and in the country schools near here. That fact, in itself, shows in what high regard she is held by her own community. Who can say what cherished memories hundreds of children and their children hold close for their first teacher who showed the way?

## OLD MAN RIVER

Undoubtedly New Haven is where it is because of the river, and it is what it is, also, largely because of the river. When New Haven was young almost all traffic was by water. Then evidently, the river's course was different than it is now and most of the year channel was deep enough to carry large river boats. They arrived several times a week. From the time Daniel Boone paddled his canoe up the river to visit his brother until the winter of 1942-43 when corn was hauled from the elevator to Evansville by boat the river has been our best friend and our worst enemy.



Junction of Big and Little Wabash Rivers

Two dams have been built, but neither is in use now. For many years the mill was run by water power. This mill was built by Charles and George Knight and operated by Hanmore and Gallagher. After the steam mill was built in 1868, the water mill was abandoned. It decayed and was finally torn down.

The Little Jim Roller mill was built by D. M. Porter and Alois Winterberger for Capt. James Ford who came to New Haven in 1868. It was three stories high including a basement and had five sets of rollers for grinding wheat and one for grinding corn. It was propelled by a thirty-horsepower steam engine and had a capacity of fifty barrels every twenty-four hours. Mr. Ford operated the mill for many years. His daughter, Lucy Frank, married Dr. Hall.

Mr. Harry Woods bought the mill from Mr. Ford. He made and sold Old Honesty Flour for about fifty years. He sold the mill to Mr. Frank Stevens. Mr. Seymore Hughes worked at this mill for twenty-nine years. It was torn down in 1929.

For about fifty years Sam and Sylvester York ran a ferry across the river at a point about one block west of the present bridge. At one time they sponsored a survey to make this a deep water way, but the idea was never carried out. It is supposed that the government decided the expense too great for the amount of business to be handled. Undoubtedly at times

during these years the river was deep enough for large boats to dock at our front door, at least it was our front door then.

When the larger river boats came in it was quite an event. They brought the mail, "city goods from Philadelphia", and when the whistle blew that meant the boat was staying until the next day and there would be a dance on board that night. These were the social events. Southern Illinois is particularly deficient in written material about traffic on the Ohio and lower Mississippi. It is practically unrecorded.



Picture of Bridge Across Little Wabash

The bridge across the Little Wabash was built by a Chicago construction company in 1895 at a cost of \$1,800 to be shared equally by Gallatin and White counties. The day of dedication was a holiday. The celebration was held in a field on the farm now belonging to Joe Sparrow. There was an especially built



Ferry Boat "New Haven" Owned by William Merritt  
Picture Made in 1913 (Courtesy Andrew Bosaw)



platform. Mr. Jesse Wade of Mt. Vernon, Indiana, was speaker of the day. The band was here, and a good old-fashioned picnic dinner had been served. There was much dancing and merry-making. New Haven's share of the money was in cash, in the hands of Mathais Eply, then town clerk, who growing tired of carrying it around, turned it over to A. M. Studebill, the supervisor, who was to pay it to the company at the ceremony. When the time came Mr. Studebill had disappeared with the money. He was never caught and the money had to be repaid by his bondsmen, one of whom was W. P. Aldridge.

The bridge is in good repair at present, as is the gravel road on to Mackey Ferry, so called because it was first owned by Captain Mackey, who owned a boat named the Steamer Edith. Later he sold out to Captain Fretageot who also owned the New Harmony Ferry. Mr. David Bosaw managed this ferry at this time. It was then sold to Zergible and Thompson who sold it to T. B. Smith of Ridgway. He owns it at the present time and it is run by gasoline.

Most of the boats used here have been packets. These are small steamboats originally designed to carry mail, passengers, and small freight, and they usually make short regular trips. The Hornbrooks owned one named the D. A. and Nesbitt which ran between here and Mt. Vernon in the early nineteen hundreds. Before this the Rose Dale brought the mail, but it was sunk. B. E. Bieker and his brother, Louis, owned one named the Red Spot, which brought merchandise for his store in 1912.

Mr. William Merritt owns the one that has been used most recently to haul corn. It was docked three or four years, but used again to haul corn and pop corn, in the last few years.

Gravel is cheap and abundant along the river and most of the gravel roads in counties near here are built from the gravel along the banks of the Wabash. During the spring, summer and fall months gravel is hauled night and day out of New Haven on Route 141. Many of these trucks come as far as 100 miles. Some are privately owned, and some belong to counties or townships. In fact there are very few roads in Southern Illinois that are not graveled at present.

The high water in the spring of 1943 changed the course of the river, and the bank of the river on the Indiana side of the ferry landing was washed away for a hundred feet or more, so that a new ferry landing must be built. This is under construction.

By using the ferry it is only 32 miles to Evansville, Indiana, and many people commute to their work in war plants, thus avoiding the high rent and congestion of the city.

## THE LITTLE WABASH RIVER

—GEORGEANN MELTON



Mrs. Georgeann  
Melton

This poem is set to music by Mrs. Melton. It is original music. She plays by ear. She was born and reared on the river banks, and this is a sincere expression of her life.

### I

Sweet to my memories, to forget I never could,  
Of the Little Wabash River, where the old mill dam once stood.  
There now stands a dwelling, where eight children grew,  
And I've no sweeter blessings, they come so very few.

### CHORUS

Little Wabash, where you going, you seem to travel fast,  
The waves upon you tossing, as you go rolling past.  
I've watched you from my childhood, I'll never forget the days,  
When I was just a small child, by you I liked to play.

### II

When a child I'd wander, with my hook and line so grand,  
I'd wade out in the water, where the old mill dam did stand,  
I'd fish and fish all day, perhaps I'd catch a bass,  
And when the sun was sinking low, I'd climb the hill so fast.

### III

Yes, all the children's gone now to homes of their own,  
And sometimes we wander back to our childhood home,  
And there I like to wander down to that very path,  
That leads to the Little Wabash, it's there I stand at last.

### IV

The birds still sing so sweetly, as in my childhood days,  
And nothing has changed much, since I have gone away.  
The place where I went bathing is still so good and cool  
For many times I'd slip away against my mother's rule.

### V

My mother's hair is gray now, and father's wrinkled, too,  
But the river has never changed, and is still as clean and cool.  
My parents now are aging, but they are just as dear  
And the Wabash still is flowing, as it was when I was near.

### VI

Many times I linger, it's there I like to stand.  
I think about precious memories, on the Wabash bank so grand,  
That Little Wabash River, it sure is dear to me,  
I never shall forget it, my childhood days so free.

## FLOODS

THE FIRST recorded flood was in 1832 and the next in 1882. Evidently these were not very high, but the next year, 1883, the water was said to be the highest thus far in history and was only



Corner Vine and Mill Streets During 1913 Flood



Mill Street During 1913 Flood Looking Towards River



three feet below the highest mark of 1913. Much damage was done to the property by this flood, many cases of typhoid, malaria, and pneumonia followed, as usual, in its wake. However, there was no loss of life in New Haven, that we know about, and since the flood was in April, spring was on the way and the weather was much more favorable than in January, 1937, when our worst flood came.



Andrew Bosaw Residence February 6, 1937. Water Had Dropped 1½ Ft.



The Elevator at New Haven During 1937 Flood.

By January 28, 1937, the water had been rising steadily for weeks and hundreds of acres of land were under water. New Haven was entirely covered and the water was still rising. It is impossible to estimate the damage done to crops and homes. In times of such stress the true spirit of a people is shown. The spirit of the people of New Haven is one they may well be proud of. All the boats and hip rubber boots were in action. People showed no fear or panic and there was time to help each other. Literally, they were all in the same boat and able to take it.



Looking From Town Hall Toward River. February 9, 1937



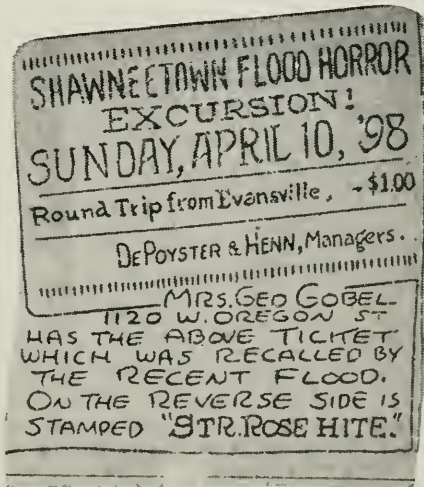


Henry Sparrow Garage During Flood January, 1937

The radio appeal for boats from WEBQ, Harrisburg, brought a state conservation boat in charge of two men each named Lynch. More than 150 persons were rescued from their homes by this boat. A temporary radio station was put up on top of Bieker's store, since this was the only way of outside communication.

The backwaters from the turbulent Ohio were coming in with great force and the water was rising with alarming rapidity. Everywhere people were putting their furniture and household goods up to the ceiling on scaffolds, ready to be abandoned. By Sunday the water was over the pavement and every house between there and the river was deserted. As the water entered the houses they were often lifted from their foundations, sometimes turned or floated a little distance.

A call for a doctor was sent to Carmi and Dr. F. C. Sibley donated his time and his medicine for the day in New Haven. He made part of the trip by boat. He reported that most of



Shawneetown Flood Horror Excursion  
Newspaper Item. (Courtesy Lena  
Greenlee Hines.)

the illness was among children and the situation was acute. Mrs. E. R. Pickerell of the Red Cross came with Dr. Sibley and Dr. Harriet Daniel Graves of the Illinois State Health Department was in New Haven. Mrs. Pickerell reported that the Red Cross needs could be taken care of by the White County Chapter. Food, clothing, medicine and fuel were furnished where needed.

Boats continued to bring in families from neighboring farms and about 30 families were living in the school house. Horses and cattle had been either boated in or driven in town and turn loose and were causing much confusion. The rescue work was very dangerous because sometimes there was floating ice in the river. The refugees were all given typhoid shots by the Red Cross and these were compulsory to prevent the spread of disease when the waters should recede. The serum was furnished by the board of health. Many cases of measles and chickenpox were reported, and almost every one was suffering from a cold or the flu due to exposure.

Very few people stayed in town all the time, but the property was guarded by the National Guard who had been called in to help. Sightseers were not admitted and all people who came and went on business only had a permit to do so.

This is a far cry from the "Excursion" advertised Sunday, April 10, 1898, to see the Shawneetown Flood Horror. Round trip from Evansville \$1.00 De Royster and Henn, Managers. A ticket to this is owned by Mrs. George Goebel, 1120 West Oregon Street.

Surely human nature does improve, however slowly, for we no longer have sightseeing excursions where the fortunate may go in idle curiosity to view the misfortune of others.

The reconstruction following this flood was carried on without much outside help from either the Red Cross or the federal government as was done in many of the flooded areas. The building and remodeling that were done here were through the individual initiative of local citizens. Many of the smaller homes were covered with brick siding, several concrete block bungalows were built and the Wilburn Bates' built a modern brick home on Vine Street.

The high water of 1943 did not reach the village limits—but flooded the bottom land and did not recede until past corn planting time consequently most of the corn crop this year will not mature causing a great loss in labor and money. Many farmers will not realize enough from their crop to pay for the fuel oil it took to plant it.

Thus again Old Man River takes his toll.

## THE FLOOD OF '37

This ballad was written during the flood while the water lacked only two feet going over the top of her home. She and her family went past the school house where relatives and friends had gathered for refuge, and it gave her inspiration for this song.

### I

The flood of '37 treated rich and poor alike.  
It was an awful scene, people walking with their pack  
There were people's homes afloat, while they left 'em in a boat,  
With no room to ever take their treasures dear.

### CHORUS

Many people in the cold,  
And they had no place to go.  
And each day the rain kept pouring down.  
How they tried to help each other  
In the school house together  
And each day the rain kept pouring down.

### II

In many places, water deep, with no boat with them to keep,  
There were people weeping for miles around.  
Levees breaking—hearts aching.  
People's homes and all things taking  
We believe the wrath of God was coming down.

### III

In the school house of New Haven there were people gathered  
there  
For they had no other refuge they could take  
And if they had stopped and waited, for more private homes to  
be seated  
They would have lost it all, been left to the water's fate.

### IV

There were people sick in bed, with sad heart and aching head  
And there was no way to get them out so long.  
God's wrath was coming down, In New Haven and miles around  
Just open wide your eyes and plainly see.

### V

Every day folks moved in rain, all things wet, a frightful scene,  
People wet and could not stop to dry.  
For while they had time to go, they moved away and so  
They had to move, regardless of the rain.

—GEORGEANN MELTON

## FISHING

RIVER FISHING is a very pleasant occupation whether it is for fun or for profit. Many of the pole and line fishermen who fish for sport or relaxation come to New Haven every year. Besides the Little Wabash, there are the Big Wabash, Old River, The Bayou, Beaver Lake and Sandy Slough in which to try your luck.



Mr. Lloyd Gill, one of New Haven's commercial fishermen. In the boat near the net is his cane, made from the Catalpa tree by Mr. Hughes.

Bates Brothers have a fishing camp where one may pitch a tent, rent a boat and buy minnows, in fact one can get anything he needs for fishing, right there.

Commercial fishing is done with nets. Many of these nets are made by Bessie Bennett, at her home in New Haven. It takes 16 to 18 hours to make one of the larger ones which has about 8,000 knots, and is worth

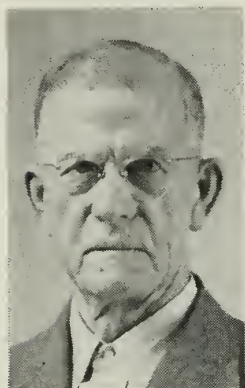
about \$6.00. If it is properly tarred about every four or five weeks a net will last two or three years. For bait the commercial fishermen use cheese scraps which they get from hotels and restaurants. It takes 1,000 pounds or more a season. Besides the nets and bait, a commercial fisherman needs a motor boat, a couple of tubs and a yen for fishing. Then, last but not least, a license which costs \$1.10 per net, regardless of size. Fishing is fairly profitable here and the markets could sell twice as many fish as they catch. Mr. Lloyd Gill, who really knows his fishing, as do the Cliffords and Mr. Shepherd and others here, tells us fish are caught better in rather shallow water where there is a firm sand bottom. After the anchor is dropped and the rope gets tight, the net is opened toward the current rather near the shore. A good current makes better fishing. The nets are left over night and the next morning one has a net full of fish—maybe.

It wasn't our lucky day, when we took the pictures. Most of the fish are packed in ice and trucked to Harrisburg, Marion or Carmi. June is the height of the season.



## THE U. S. POST OFFICE

THE NEW HAVEN Post Office was established in 1820. It was in a one-story frame building on Mill Street between Water and Vine Streets, on the west side of the street. The building is not now standing. Mill Street was the main street in those days and large river boats came up the river and docked at this intersection. Most of the mail, freight and express was carried by water, and boats came several times a week.



W. L. Goodman

The local mail was carried by the pony express, the rider changing horses every ten miles or so. The route was from Carmi to New Haven and then to Shawneetown.

Stamps were not in use then, the first issue being, we believe, about 1847. Letters were folded and sealed with wax and addressed on the outside and the postman was paid the fee. Sometimes this was written

on the letter but not always. Envelopes were not used and letters were scarce and precious in those days.

Of course, there was no Rural Free Delivery at first and therefore people from miles around gathered at the post office to wait for the mail. Here the news was discussed, but it was not as new news as it is in our day. Magazines and newspapers were not very numerous then and were too expensive for most people. The Parcel Post law was passed in 1912, and this was a great help to people of small communities, as well as mail order houses.

Mr. Andrew Bosaw was our first rural mail carrier. He began in 1916, while W. E. Funkhouser was postmaster. He has served the community exceptionally well for almost thirty years. Few of us stop to realize the conveniences of free mail delivery and how it has increased and improved during this period of



This picture of the post office was made during the 1937 flood. The National Guard are on duty, loading the mail. The post office and the W. L. Goodman General Store are on the first floor and the Masonic Lodge is on the second floor.

years. Mr. Alvie Smith carries the mail that goes to or from Omaha.

The star route was carried by Mr. Charles Howell for several years. During the summer of 1943, Mr. John W. Arbaugh of Carmi took his place. Formerly the star route went every week day—but a federal law became effective July 1, 1943, according to Postmaster W. L. Goodman, giving postal employees the benefit of all legal holidays. All the postmen now drive automobiles which are, of course, official mail cars. These postmen would carry passengers, taxi fashion, much as was customary in the days of the stage coach. This has been and is a great convenience to the citizens of New Haven — since there is neither a railroad or a bus line here.



Andrew Bosaw, New Haven's First Rural Mail Carrier. Picture was made in 1916.

Postal service has grown and improved much in the past years—and many of us take these improvements as matters of course. Almost anything from money to live baby chicks may be sent safely by mail.

Every citizen receives the same consideration at a U. S. Post Office, and the one at New Haven is no exception. The Post Offices are rated according to the amount of business they handle. There has been a very noticeable increase in the amount of mail this post office has handled in the last few years, and the service is always prompt and courteous.

We have never had a federal post office building and the post office has been moved from place to place with the business of the postmaster.

Here is a list of our postmasters:

Samuel Dagley	W. P. Aldridge	J. H. Graddy
Col. Thomas Hick	Lee Carruth	Benjamin P. Hinch
John Wood	Willie O'Neil	Walter Melvin
W. P. Abshire	Joseph O'Neil	S. B. Questelle
J. B. Hanmore	A. J. Surguy	I. M. Asbury
Cazwell Buttram	W. E. Funkhouser	W. L. Goodman

Mr. W. E. Funkhouser was postmaster 23 years, the longest term.

## THE BANKS

IN THE early days of New Haven a great deal of the trading was done by barter or exchange. Corn was a common medium. Many substantial citizens carried their fortunes with them literally in gold dollars in their pockets.

During the 1850's there were no federal banking laws in the United States and state laws differed greatly. Banks were of two kinds in those days, incorporated banks, which operated under state laws, and private banks, which did not. These came to be known as wild cat banks. At one time New Haven had five of these. Col. Hick operated the largest and most widely known. It was called the New Haven State Bank. This was in 1856. The idea was to have these banks as far as possible from the large business centers, in small towns not easily accessible, in order to avoid frequent runs on the bank. Here brokers, who made a business of buying up bills at a discount, or "scalp notes" would come about twice a month, from New York and Philadelphia, with bags full of this discounted paper. There was little formality about these meetings. It was rather a hail fellow, well-met, atmosphere with plenty of good wine and card playing. Only when there was actual gold in sight was the business serious. To take in twenty dollars in gold was considered a good day's business. This practice was true of course not only in New Haven, but all over the country, and its effect finally reached the largest banking institutions in the country and many of them had to stop payment on all discounted papers, and by doing so gave a severe shock to credit confidence and this caused a panic. By 1860, most of these wild cat banks were gone, and the Civil War had as one of its consequences the introduction of a federal banking law.

For a long period of years then there was no bank in New Haven. The New Haven Deposit Bank was established in 1903 by Mr. Scudmore and Mr. Mathais. It was a private bank on the northeast corner of Mill and Front Streets.



The bank building is now occupied by Grant's Barber Shop. In the rear is a two-room apartment.

Mr. Ira Grant is shown in front of his shop. He is a direct descendant of Roswell H. Grant who bought Boone's Fort and named it New Haven.



In 1908 Mr. William Tuley bought this bank and in 1910 reorganized it as The First National Bank. About this time banking laws were again changed and private banks went out of existence, as such, there being now only state banks or National banks.

On April 15, 1914, the bank was again reorganized and Mr. M. M. Davis became president in Mr. Tuley's place. The other directors were Jarrett Epley, George Edwards, P. H. Peake and Fred Davis. It was capitalized at \$10,000.00 and again renamed The People's State Bank. In 1916 the bank moved into its new home on Vine Street and Mr. Fred Davis acted as cashier until his death in 1928. The bank was doing well and the report for the fiscal year, June 1, 1928, showed a \$82,436.00 business, but the depression was on its way and was felt first and hardest in rural communities. After the death of Mr. Davis the bank was closed and Mr. John Crebs, Carmi, and Mr. B. E. Bieker were named receivers. Mr. Crebs acted only a short time and in twenty-five months all the collections that could be made were done and the bank paid back 73½¢ on the dollar. This was considered very good in view of the fact that prices had dropped so much by this time and markets had hit a new all time low.

## THE DOCTORS

NEW HAVEN has been fortunate to have a resident doctor most of the time in her history. There have been as many as six here at one time. Due to the war there is a great shortage of doctors at this time, and we are exceptionally pleased to have Dr. Kirby make his home here. These doctors have practiced in New Haven:

Dr. Augustus Gilpin

Dr. T. B. Hick

Dr. F. M. Aldridge

Dr. Sam Hall

Dr. D. C. Ramsey

Dr. George Traffton

Dr. I. M. Asbury

Dr. J. H. Tanner

Dr. Carey



Dr. James  
A. Kirby

Dr. Hudgins

Dr. John Barnett

Dr. I. A. Foster

Dr. W. E. McGuire

Dr. R. S. Loewenherz

Dr. W. F. Stanelle

Now First Lieutenant  
in U. S. Army

Dr. James A. Kirby

## THE NOX THEATRE

THE NOX THEATRE is one of a chain by the same name managed by A. M. Chamness. Willard Lanham, Erwin Morris and Lewis Orman have operated this machine. The sound effect is very good for the size of the building which seats 304. Mr. Andrew Bosaw, the door man, tells us they have a full house about four nights out of every week. He also tells us the gas rationing has made no noticeable difference in the attendance, but the Army and the defense work have. This building belongs to B. E. Bieker and was opened September 3, 1937. It is built of concrete blocks, which are made here in New Haven. Several buildings of this type have been built since the 1937 flood. They will probably stand the test of high water better than other types of building.



The Nox Theatre

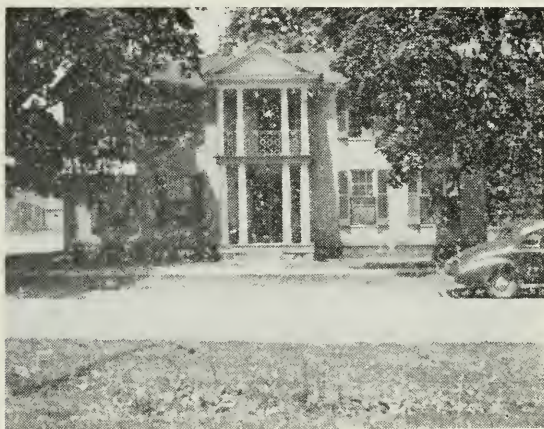
In the days of silent pictures Mr. Dick Eddington had a show for about a year. This was in 1905. Mr. George Pyles managed a show in 1927 and he sold it to Mr. Andrew Bosaw in 1928. These were in an old building on Vine Street next to the present theatre.

In 1930 P. H. Peake operated a picture show on Mill Street south of Dagley's Hardware Store. Mr. W. L. Goodman also owned this show for about two years after Mr. Peake sold out. For several years there was no motion picture show here, and during these years the Choate Bros. brought their tent show to New Haven annually. We are fortunate to have such a good theatre, which brings the class of attraction that we get at the Nox. The best pictures of the year are usually shown here. This Nox is one of a chain, the others being in Eldorado, Carriers Mills and Shawneetown.

The other room of the building is occupied by the C. C. Crane Furniture Store.

## THE GRADDY HOTEL

THE GRADDY HOTEL was built in 1859. It is the only building in use now in New Haven that was built before the Civil War. It was on the main stage route between Shawneetown and Vincennes. Many travelers stopped here usually for the night and it is interesting to note how many registered as John



The Graddy Hotel

Q. Citizen and driver. This was the hey day of the horse and buggy. The livery stable was in the same block. New Haven history could not be told without the story of the genuine hospitality of the Graddy Hotel. Many and interesting are the names on the old hotel registers. From the front porch William Jennings Bryan made his

famous Price of Peace speech to one of the largest crowds ever gathered here.

Frank O. Lowden's name appears in the register, as well as that of the late Congressman Claude V. Parsons. P. A. Preliss from Alaska is registered there September 26, 1924. The telephone crew lived there while they built the telephone lines and installed the telephones. The C. I. P. S crew lived there while the electric lines were built. In April, 1913, flood refugees were brought there from Shawneetown before the levee was dynamited.

November 29, 1906, Dr. John Barnett entertained with a Thanksgiving dinner. Everyone who came enjoyed knowing the genial host and charming hostess, "Uncle Joe and Aunt Mary" Graddy. It was the custom for many years for people to drive to the Graddy Hotel for dinner. The food was always delicious and the hotel was beautifully furnished with genuine antique furniture.

The building now belongs to W. E. Funkhouser, and has been recently painted and repaired. The Vanderbarks and Mr. and Mrs. Curlie Shaw make their home in the hotel. It is on the northwest corner of Vine and Mill Streets, and is a private residence.



## THE PAVEMENT

ON SATURDAY, November 25, 1933, New Haven was host to a great crowd of people from White and Gallatin Counties, who came to help celebrate the opening of State Route 141. The master of ceremonies was by common consent New Haven's first citizen, B. E. Bieker, because he had given very liberally of his time and influence for many years to bring the state road to New Haven.

The celebration was opened by an invocation by Rev. Homer Young. Mr. Bieker made the address of welcome, and it was certainly one of his best because of genuine happiness. Judge Marsh Wisheart responded to this address

and he was followed by State Senator Jesse Wade of Mt. Vernon, Indiana. Mr. E. A. Marlin of Herald gave the next address, and read a letter from Governor Small, who thanked the people for an invitation to attend the ceremony and explained that "Route 141 had been placed where it would give the most satisfaction to the most people without favoritism or personal preference".

The music for the day and evening was furnished by the Norris City Band and the Mt. Vernon Drum Corps. At eight o'clock, Mr. T. W. Hall of Carmi made an interesting address of progress. He was followed by an address by Congressman Claude V. Parsons, who almost convinced the public that there was no depression after all.

Contests and entertainment were furnished by the merchants of the town and prizes were awarded: Best decorated car, T. B. Smith; Girls' 50-yard dash, Illa Dee Questelle; Hog calling contest, Alta McGhee; Sack race, Elvis Musgrave; Largest family, Louis Hale; Oldest married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Acord; Best looking single couple, John Upchurch and Maxine Wright; Largest man, Roland Hall; Oldest automobile, Mr. Jamerson of Springerton; Coming longest distance, William Pratt, Escanaba, Michigan, 1,000 miles; Ladies' nail driving contest, Mrs. Will Land.

In the late evening, there was a public dance on the pave-



B. E. Bieker, general merchandise. Left to right: B. E. Bieker, Ralph West, John Bernard Barnett, Leo Wilson.

ment. Many couples were in costume. Sergeant Grissom and a squad of motor police were present and reported only peace and happiness everywhere.

### "NEW HAVEN"

(The following poem was written by A. E. Gilpin, son of New Haven's first doctor. The poem was read by Mr. Gilpin when the pavement was dedicated.)

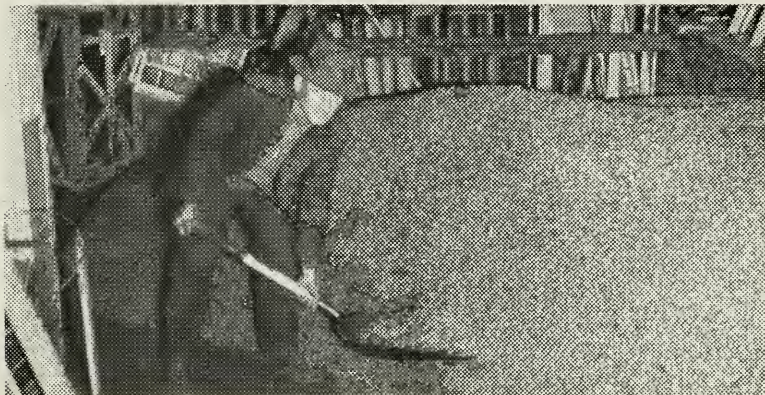
Here is to you, New Haven  
Nestled neath a range of hills,  
Where in days now long departed  
We received our childhood thrills.  
At your feet the Little Wabash  
Winds its way to larger streams.  
In the bright light of the sunrise  
Its placid water gleams.  
Just beyond the larger Wabash  
With its woods of trees so rare  
Its fine pecans and hickories  
Are famous everywhere.  
Farther down the great Ohio  
With its wondrous shimmering sheen  
On its banks are splendid forests  
Interspread with fields of green.  
There's a beauty in your hilltops  
With their winter caps of snow  
But they're green again in springtime  
And gorgeous in autumn's glow.  
Your soil for its fertility  
Rivals the far famed valley Nile  
Dame Nature with a bounteous harvest  
Does forever on you smile.  
Your farmsides are dotted with cattle.  
Nearby fields are teeming with grain.  
Your melons, so very delicious,  
Have a flavor sure to remain.  
Fate was good to you, New Haven,  
When she chose for you this place,  
And you've returned her favor  
With a kindly charming grace.  
'Tis said that a drink from the Wabash  
Is a pledge of allegiance true—  
In our minds we quaff these waters  
And renew our faith in you.  
In yon nearby hills and valleys  
Shawnee Indians followed the chase

Even yet in this vicinity  
Are relics of that great race.  
Long, long before Miss Chicago  
In the far, far North was begun  
Your earliest sons and daughters  
Their full life span had run.  
For years on the banks of your river  
Stood a graceful Catalpa tree  
Marking the spot where the old Fort stood  
As a bulwark against the Shawnee.  
Your founders coursed blood of rare strain,  
From the South and East did they come  
Till they reached the banks of the Wabash  
And made this their permanent home.  
In the days of the covered wagon  
Your hospitable taverns of fame  
Sheltered many a weary traveler  
As through your village he came.  
Now we've heard New Haven calling  
In her usual cordial voice  
To her wandering sons and daughters  
Come home today and rejoice.  
So, we're here today, New Haven  
Coming home from all walks of life  
To be with you on this occasion  
Forgetting all trouble and strife.  
And now we meet in the home again  
All bedecked in festive array  
To join in your great celebration  
Dedicating the New Highway.  
May this wonderful ribbon of concrete  
Leading out to the world beyond  
Be a lasting tie that binds us  
In a beautiful fellowship bond.  
Yet there's tinge of sadness  
As we come back year by year  
Missing the friends and loved ones  
Whom in old days we met here.  
But that seems the way of all nature  
So we'll let fond memories fade away,  
We'll mix and mingle together  
Making this a glad holiday.  
God speed to you, New Haven,  
May your next one hundredth year  
Maintain your cherished traditions  
And your stalwart traits hold dear.



## PECAN MARKET

PECANS have always brought quite a large income to New Haven. Wabash Valley pecans are noted for their excellent flavor and high oil content, and therefore bring as high a price on the market as southern nuts which are much larger. There are hundreds of acres of native pecan woods in northern Gal-



W. E. Dagley shoveling pecans from pile. (Mr. Dagley is a direct descendant of Samuel Dagley, the first settler of New Haven.)

latin and southern White counties. Some of the owners and tenants of this land are the Gray Brothers, the Vanderbarks, the Goforths, the Roarks, the Medlins, the Parkers, the Williams and the Beans. Much of the land is leased and subleased at the time of the harvest. In the good old days anyone could go and gather nuts as he chose, but this is not true nowadays. Hundreds



Interior of Dagley Store With Sacked Pecans





Ten Tons of Pecans Loaded for Chicago

of thousands of pounds of pecans are sold annually and the crop is carefully watched.

Early in November, after the first good frost, all New Haven knows it is time to go "pecaning". Many people literally move to the bottoms to live while the season lasts. There are many shacks down there and it is looked upon as good sport as well as good business. If the water is down, however, many others drive back and forth daily, most of the woods are about eight or ten miles away. A good picker can earn five dollars or more a day. The season lasts about a month. Anyone and everyone works. Children and women dressed warmly and carrying along a lunch go to help for, if the water should rise, many nuts would be lost. Sometimes after high water, the nuts are washed together and can be dipped up with buckets. After they are dried, their sale is not damaged a lot but it is much better to get them out before the water comes. The trees are shaken with long poles by men known as "knockers". There are also many hickory nuts and black walnuts, but since they do not bring a very good price many are allowed to waste on the ground.



Pecan woods along Wabash River. No, it isn't an Indian tent you see—it is a pecan picker's cabin.

Several years ago the New Hav-

en Chamber of Commerce decided to advertise their community by having an annual Pecan Day. With the cooperation of the Farm Bureau and the University of Illinois, these days have been very successful. The big event of the day, a delicious dinner served at one of the churches by the Ladies' Aid Society, of course, features pecan pie. In 1942 Pecan Day was omitted on account of the war.

The bulk of the crop is usually handled by one merchant here and sold wholesale. The different merchants seem to have more or less of an understanding about this. In 1934 B. E. Bieker sold \$57,000.00 worth of pecans, one carload bringing \$6,651.57 and the bank closed on the check. For many years Roy G. Mitchell bought the entire crop. He was the first one to wholesale pecans. In 1922 he sold \$100,000.00 worth, the largest business in the county. After his health failed and he retired, they were handled by the Garrison Store and more recently by W. E. Dagley. In 1941, Mr. Dagley had so many pecans stacked in one of his warerooms that the floor collapsed and about ten tons had to be moved immediately. They were sent by truck to Chicago.

The crop was exceedingly good this year and the price rose within a week from eleven cents a pound to twenty-two cents during the harvest season. Of course the best price is around holiday times and usually most of them are held until then.

At the annual Tri-State Pecan Show, held at New Haven, Illinois, Saturday, November 15, 1941, the following program was given:

### MORNING

9:00—Assemble in front of the New Haven Theatre for tour of the 1,000 acres of big pecan trees in the Wabash Valley. Stops are as follows:

1. Gaylord Medlin's Grove
  - (a) Method of Gathering Pecans
  - (b) Tree Planting Demonstration.....Ray E. Sly
2. Marsh Roark's 100-acre Grove
  - (a) See Pecan Knockers and Pickers in Action!
3. Big Barn Grove, Charles Roark, Manager
4. Bert Goforth's Grove
  - (a) To Observe and Study Methods of Propagation

### NOON

12:00—Big Chicken Dinner and Sweet Meated Pecan Pie, served by Ladies' Aid.

## AFTERNOON

- 1:00—Music by New Haven School.....Paul Lowe, Director  
 Song—"Pecan Gathering Along the Wabash", Mrs.  
 Evelyn Wood Clark, Author  
 Address of Welcome.....B. E. Bieker  
 Introduction of Guests  
 Reminiscence and Progress of Gallatin County Pecan  
 Varieties.....H. C. Neville, Farm Adviser,  
 Saline County  
 Round Table Discussion, "What's New in the Grow-  
 ing of Pecans and Nuts in Illinois".....Dr. A. S. Colby  
 and Dr. V. W. Kelley  
 Problems on Nut Insects.....Leader, S. C. Chandler  
 Marketing Pecans.....J. F. Wilkerson
- 2:30—Reasons for Placing of Entries in Nut Show.....  
 .....Dr. A. S. Colby and J. F. Wilkerson
- 3:00—Adjournment

Premiums were offered as follows:

## CLASS A—Pecans, Named Variety—Best Display:

First.....\$5.00	Second.....\$2.00	Third.....\$1.00
Fourth.....\$ .50	Fifth.....\$ .25	

## CLASS B—Native Pecans, Best Display:

First.....\$5.00	Second.....\$2.00	Third.....\$1.00
Fourth.....\$ .50	Fifth.....\$ .25	

## CLASS C—Walnuts—Best Display:

First.....\$1.00	Second.....\$ .50	Third.....\$ .25
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## CLASS D—Hickory Nuts—1. Shale Bark Entry:

First.....\$1.00	Second.....\$ .50	Third.....\$ .25
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## 2. Shag Bark or River Nut Entry:

First.....\$1.00	Second.....\$ .50	Third.....\$ .25
------------------	-------------------	------------------

The Tri-State Pecan Committee was composed of Bert Go-  
 forth, chairman, Marsh Roark, B. E. Bieker, Howard Pyles, W.  
 C. Garrison, Gaylord Medlin, W. L. Goodman, W. E. Dagley  
 and Steve Duffey.



- |   |                                  |                   |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Arthur Upton .....               | Mayor             |
| 2 | Otis Chastain .....              | Village Clerk     |
| 3 | B. E. Bieker .....               | Village Treasurer |
| 4 | Max Davis .....                  | Police Magistrate |
| 5 | Howard Pyles .....               | Member            |
| 6 | Ed Jones .....                   | Member            |
| 7 | James Roark .....                | Member            |
| 8 | John Steele .....                | Member            |
|   | Gilbert Davis (no picture) ..... | Member            |

## BUSINESS AS USUAL

THESE present places of business are doing all that can be done to make New Haven a pleasant, prosperous place in which to live, in spite of the war, food and gas rationing, and manpower shortage: Bates Bros., Texaco gas station, Vine Street; Barber Shop, Ira Grant, proprietor, Vine Street; Bessie Bennett, cream station, Hickory Street; B. E. Bieker, general store, Vine Street; John Cozart, blacksmith shop, Franklin Street; C. C. Crane, furniture store, Vine Street; W. E. Dagley, hardware store, Main Street; Max Davis, real estate and insurance, Vine Street; The Elevator, Hominy Milling Company, Jennings Hill, manager, Mill and Walnut Streets; Farm Bureau Gas and Oil, Otis Chastain, Vine Street; T. B. Smith, funeral home, Vine Street; Grocery Store, Howard Pyles, owner, Vine Street; Gravel



Boat, Gallatin and Saline Counties, operators, on the river; W. L. Goodman, general store and post office, Vine Street; J. A. Kirby, M. D., Vine Street; Harvey Mitchell, restaurant, Franklin Street; William (Pat) Rider, restaurant, Vine Street; Ross Stallings, barber shop and pool room, Vine Street; Henry Sparrow, garage, Vine Street; Standard Oil Station, Louis Mitchell, Ray Wiggins and Archie Elliott, Franklin Street; Telephone Office, Annie Roark, operator, Vine Street; Sinclair Filling Station, Andrew Bosaw, Vine Street; McCarthy Seed Company, popcorn elevator, near Front Walnut Street; Periodicals and Newspaper Agency, C. F. Shaw, Graddy Hotel, Vine Street; Shoe Repair, Risen Dutton, Bieker's Store, Vine Street.



Mr. and Mrs. Howard "Happy" Pyles and Mrs. Hamer Hines. This picture was made before the Pleezing Food Store was moved to its new location on Vine Street.



Thomas Mobley, Truck Operator

Trucking is a very important business in and near New Haven. These men own or operate trucks:

Tom Sparrow and Son  
 Fred Givens  
 J. A. Questell  
 Robert Browning  
 Tom Ramsey  
 Joe Acord  
 Jim Roark  
 Bates Brothers  
 Thomas Mobley

## BOOM TOWN

THE FIRST oil well drilled in the New Haven Pool, in January, 1941, was known as the Hiawatha Oil and Gas Company, the R. D. Stinson Heirs number one. The pool is located several miles east of New Haven, Illinois, and situated on and near the banks



Office and Residence of Manager of Hiawatha Gas and Oil Company

of the Big Wabash River. The initial production on the first wells drilled was approximately 100 barrels per day.

Up to the present time, January, 1943, there have been twenty-one wells completed as producers, seventeen by Hiawatha Oil and Gas Company and four by the Sinclair-Wyoming Oil Company. So far, the operators have encountered five different oil producing formations ranging from 2100 feet to 2800 feet, however, all five producing horizons do not prevail in every well.

All wells and storage tanks are on twelve-foot substructures enabling the wells to continue operation during flood waters. Some of the wells are on land belonging to H. O. Rowe, C. Todd, Joel Vail, and the Boetticher heirs. The owners of these farms do not live on them and most of the tenants stay there only part of the year, because of the high water.

Drilling for oil is very dangerous work and unfortunately there have been some fatal accidents to the workers near here. Mr. C. V. Duncan was burned to death near Ridgway in 1941. He had been living in New Haven. The body was shipped back



Oil Well Near New Haven, Showing Sub-structure.

office and residence for their local manager here. At present they have only five men employed, the others having left of their own accord to work in ordinance plants in Evansville. Sometimes they have as many as fifteen with a payroll of as much as \$2,500 a month. Much of this is spent in New Haven. Usually oil wells will pump ten years and the life of many wells is much longer.

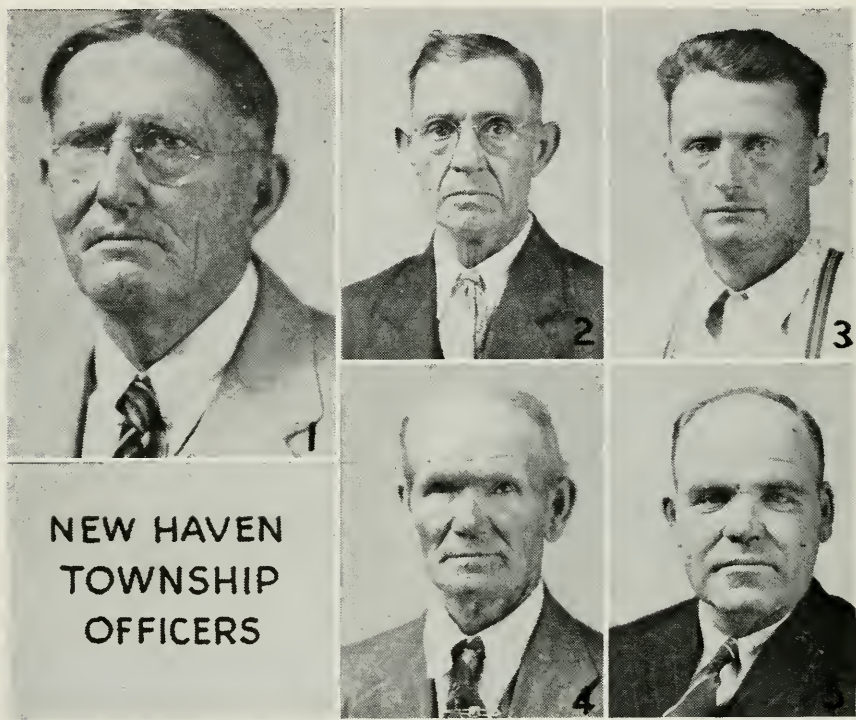
to Oklahoma for burial. Mr. Claud E. Fields was hit by a piece of falling pipe on November 18, 1942, and died just as they reached Dr. Kirby's office with him. The pipe had struck his head. He was buried at his old home, Nowatar, Oklahoma. Death came almost the same way to Woodrow Downen in January, 1943. He lived only a few hours after the accident, but did not regain consciousness. He died in the hospital in Harrisburg. He left a wife and two children. He was working for Cherry & Kidd Company on the Vanderbark farm. Some companies carry insurance for their employees, but, whether they are insured or not, they usually make such recompense as they can to the families of their men.

The Hiawatha Oil and Gas Company has built a permanent



Storage Tanks Near New Haven





- 1 Orval Allen ..... Supervisor
- 2 G. H. Medlin ..... Assessor
- 3 Barnett Allen ..... Town Clerk
- 4 William Land ..... Justice of the Peace
- 5 Steve Duffey ..... Commissioner

1943 GALLATIN COUNTY SUPERVISORS

- Guy Malin, Chairman, Equality, Illinois.....Equality Township
- Alvin Beasley, Omaha, Illinois.....Asbury Township
- C. N. Hall, Ridgway, Illinois.....Ridgway Township
- P. C. Cox, Ridgway, Illinois.....North Fork Township
- Twig Spear, Shawneetown, Illinois.....Gold Hill Township
- Edgar Talbertt, Shawneetown, Illinois.....Bowlsville Township
- Charles Burris, Shawneetown Illinois...Shawneetown Township
- Clifford Potter, Equality, Illinois.....Eagle Creek Township
- Horace Pritchett, Omaha, Illinois.....Omaha Township
- Orval Allen, New Haven, Illinois.....New Haven Township

## NEW HAVEN HAS GONE TO WAR

"As He died to make men holy, Let us die to make men free."

### MEXICAN WAR VETERANS 1845-46

W. H. Blades  
Milton Bartley  
John A. Callicot  
Charles A. Kaufman

G. H. W. Lawrence  
Adam Stinson  
G. W. Usselton  
Asa Webb

### CIVIL WAR VETERANS 1861-64

I. M. Asbury  
Sylvester R. Cone  
Hannibal Hayes  
Joseph M. Bean  
J. L. Purvis  
W. P. Aldridge  
Francis M. Dillard  
Samuel Dagley

J. C. Penny  
Sidney A. Pinney  
John Hick  
E. P. H. Stone  
James A. Trousdale  
Alonzo Bennett  
Carpenter Burrdick  
Tom Floyd

These names are taken from the White County History published in 1887. The record may be incorrect but it is all we have and as such is invaluable.

### SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETERANS 1898

Frank Brown  
George Gholson

Walter Woods  
Clarence Thomas

### WORLD WAR I VETERANS 1917-18

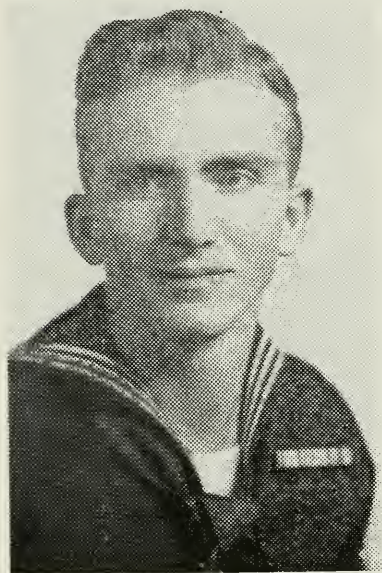
James Baker  
Earl Edwards  
Elmer Edwards  
Owen Edwards  
Roy Edwards  
\*Alvin Goforth  
\*George Hogan  
George Littleton  
Noah Griffith  
Mark Lowe  
Claud Cozart  
\*Elmer Hendricks

William Mobley  
Clarence Mitchell  
Jerry McCreary  
Orlie Patton  
Johnnie Parker  
Howard Pyles  
Fred Pyles  
Tine Pyles  
Logan Roark  
Emil Ridley  
Loren Sisk  
Guy Phillips

\* Gave his life for his country.

Alvin Goforth, George Hogan, and Elmer Hendricks were honored on Memorial Day, 1920, with a ceremony at the Town Hall and a tree was planted for each one of them.

## WORLD WAR II—1941

**DONALD L. GRIFFITH**

Second Class Electrician's Mate Griffith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Griffith, of New Haven. He enlisted in the Navy in August, 1939, and was on the Cruiser Boise when it sank six Japanese ships.

Clyde Acord

Hubert Donald Adams

Luther Adams

Max Adams

Raymond Allison

George Bean

Woodrow Bean

Raymond Bean

William C. Baker

Troy Baker

John B. Barnett

Estes Bates Jewel Bates

Logan Bates (Marines)

Ernie Bowles

Vaughn Bosaw

Harry Browning

William Browning

Oscar Carter

Robert Clifford

Elmer Clifford

Leo Cisney

Thomas Davis

Raymond Downen

Paul Duley

Raymond Ellison

Glenn Eubanks

Russell Foreman

Mack Frost William Frost

Herschel Garrison (Navy)

Devoy Griffith

Donald Griffith (Navy)

Roy Gill

Alfred Hayes

Muralbie Hollaman

Shirrel Hoy

Freeman Holtzclaw

Harvey Littleton

Herman Everett Littleton

Bernard McGhee

Roy B. Martin (Navy)

Doyle Martin

Earl Morgan

Augustus Melvin

Eddy Mundy

Edward Null Walter Null

Elvis Oliver Elmer Oliver

Herman Oliver (Navy)

Orval Oliver

Howard Warren Pyles

Thomas Reynolds

Phillip Rider

William Smith

Bernard Sparrow (Navy)

Revie Oscar Sneed (Navy)

Louis Huston Steele

John Howard Steele

Mike Stevens

Earl Teal Raleigh Teal

Lawrence Thompson

Hubert Upton

Arthur Vanderbark

Everett Walser (H. D.)

Clarence W. West

Leo Wilson

Everett York

This list is as of June 1, 1943.

## A CHRONOLOGY OF NEW HAVEN HISTORY — 1812-1943

- 1812 Ninian Edwards, Governor of Illinois territory, laid out and named Gallatin County. Samuel Dagley settles in New Haven.
- 1813 The Dagleys and Boones build homes here.
- 1814 A deed is recorded to Johnathan Boone for present site of New Haven.
- 1815 A stockade is built around Boone's Fort.
- 1816 The Sheridan Hotel, then almost a block long, is built.
- 1817 Samuel Dagley, Jr., and Jane Webb married—first wedding in Gallatin County.
- 1818 Illinois becomes a state. Roswell H. Grant buys Boone's Fort.
- 1819 Survey of town made and name changed to New Haven.
- 1820 United States Post Office established in New Haven.
- 1821 "Pork House" built. Fresh meat sent by flat boat to New Orleans.
- 1822 Blacksmith shop and livery stable opened.
- 1823 Arcade building built, a fireplace in every room.
- 1824 Voters of Illinois refuse to change constitution to legalize slavery.
- 1825 LaFayette visits Illinois and stops at Shawneetown.
- 1826 Roswell H. Grant has a flourishing mercantile business.
- 1827 Real estate is enjoying a boom.
- 1828 Hazel Moreland operating a prosperous hotel.
- 1829 First church service held in home.
- 1830 Thomas Hick received 707 votes for state representative, but was not elected.
- 1831 Lincoln, now 22, is hired to take a flatboat down the river to New Orleans where he first observes a slave market.
- 1832 First recorded flood.
- 1833 William Parks from Tennessee opens a general store.
- 1834 Lincoln becomes member of state legislature.
- 1835 Second survey of New Haven made by Albert G. Caldwell of Shawneetown.
- 1836 Real estate up again.
- 1837 New Haven incorporated as village. Samuel Dagley, mayor.
- 1838 Whiskey 25c a quart. Bring your own bucket.
- 1839 Home-made candles, very few oil lamps.
- 1840 Water mill built by Charles and George Knight; operated by Hanmore and Gallager.
- 1841 Henry Stone and John Ellis open blacksmith shop.
- 1842 Hick and Hinch operate a prosperous general store.
- 1843 Mrs. John Sheridan operates a hotel.
- 1844 Benjamin J. Hinch is born; son of prosperous merchant.



- 1845 Seven volunteers for Mexican War.
- 1846 Town was dark and muddy in these days, but most people were happy—we are told.
- 1847 First issue of United States postage stamps. Another flood—not so bad.
- 1848 Lizzy Boyd teaches first subscription school in New Haven.
- 1849 Gold rush to California—wonder who went from New Haven?
- 1850 Thomas S. Hick has prosperous business drug and dram shop at this time.
- 1851 Hinch and McDaniel have general store.
- 1852 James Dagley, Jr., has hardware store.
- 1853 Illinois legislature passes first game laws. Another flood.
- 1854 Boundary between Gallatin and White County fixed by law, puts New Haven in Gallatin County.
- 1855 Legislation passed a law to provide for free public schools.
- 1856 Captain E. P. H. Stone teaches first public school in town house.
- 1857 Masonic Lodge, Number 330, organized in New Haven.
- 1858 Lincoln ate dinner at Sheridan Hotel enroute to debate with Douglas.
- 1859 Graddy Hotel built.
- 1860 General John A. Logan visits Gallatin County; uses influence for the Union and against slavery or secession.
- 1861 Civil War begins.
- 1862 J. L. Purvis organizes company of volunteers and leave to fight the South.
- 1863 Food and medical supplies are sent in care of Reverend Swan by flat boat to Major Purvis. They never arrive.
- 1864 Before close of war Gallatin County had sent 1,358 men to Union Army which was 572 more than their quota.
- 1865 Lincoln is assassinated.
- 1866 Reconstruction—calico a dollar a yard at New Haven.
- 1867 Coffee and sugar scarce now, too.
- 1868 Steam roller mill first operated by Captain Ford. Presbyterian Church built.
- 1869 New Haven Methodist Church built and dedicated.
- 1870 New Haven first public school open for use.
- 1871 No radios, no vitamins. How did they manage?
- 1872 Abshire and Stone operate a general store.
- 1873 New Haven again incorporated under new law, as a village.
- 1874 School has two teachers for first time.
- 1875 All-day festival held in M. E. Church, raised money to buy organ.
- 1876 A pie supper and dance held in school building—my, my, a dance?

- 
- 1877 Blacksmith shop doing big business.  
1878 The days of the pony express.  
1879 James Farley was constable.  
1880 Census shows town has 400 inhabitants.  
1881 John H. Baxter, wagon manufacturer, employs 150 men.  
1882 Flood waters.  
1883 Compulsory school attendance law passed by Illinois legislature. Highest flood so far in New Haven history.  
1884 Flood waters.  
1885 W. S. Summer was a lawyer here.  
1886 F. L. Rhodes Post No. 586 G. A. R. organized.  
1887 Maurice Feehrer paid \$100 tax for "dram shop license".  
1888 Horse and buggy days.  
1889 The J. L. Greenlees move to New Haven.  
1890 The gay nineties—a saloon on almost every corner.  
1891 Old Man River jest rollin' along.  
1892 "Rose Dale", a packet hauling corn, was sunk in Little Wabash.  
1893 First child labor legislation passes in Illinois.  
1894 Dr. F. M. Asbury practicing medicine here.  
1895 Bridge across Little Wabash dedicated.  
1896 John Parker was operating brick and tile plant.  
1900 Two stores, a barber shop and saloon, burn.  
1901 Steamboat "D. A. and Nesbitt", owned by Hornbrooks, now making regular trips to New Haven.  
1902 Happy Hollow, scene of first New Haven Home-coming.  
1903 Scudmore and Mathais establish New Haven Deposit Bank.  
1904 Elevator built by Frank Stein for Fuhrer and Ford Company, Mt. Vernon, Indiana.  
1905 First picture show opened by P. H. Peake—silent serials.  
1906 Telephone system built, crew stopping at Graddy Hotel.  
1907 B. E. Bieker goes into business for himself on Vine Street.  
1908 William Tuley buys bank. B. E. Bieker and Ella Purvis married.  
1909 William Tuley builds home on Vine Street—later the Fred Davis home.  
1910 Eight business houses burn; the block on Vine Street between Melvin and Ford, complete ruin.  
1911 B. E. Bieker rebuilds store and office building, bigger and better.  
1912 W. L. Goodman enters business. Parcel Post law goes into effect.  
1913 Worst flood in New Haven up to this time. Water three feet higher than record of '83. Dr. Foster built present B. E. Bieker home.  
1914 Under local option, New Haven votes dry 334 to 82.  
1915 Rural free delivery route started with Andrew Bosaw carrier.



- 1916 W. J. Bryan makes famous "Prince of Peace" speech from porch of Graddy Hotel.
- 1917 And we called it The World War then.
- 1918 Twenty-four of New Haven's best young men go to war, and all but three return.
- 1919 These were the days when prohibition didn't prohibit.
- 1920 Three memorial trees planted at Town House in honor of George Hogan, Elmer Hendricks and Alvin Goforth.
- 1921 B. E. Bieker is mayor; Orval Allen, clerk.
- 1922 R. G. Mitchell does \$100,000 business, largest in county.
- 1923 These are the Golden Twenties.
- 1924 Horse and buggy days are gone. Standard Filling Station opened by B. E. Bieker—first in town.
- 1925 Celebrate visit of Lafayette with centennial pageant at Shawneetown.
- 1926 Prices are good; corn is 60c a bushel.
- 1927 Fishing is fine.
- 1928 The bank is closed.
- 1929 Little Jim Roller Mill torn down. The depression begins.
- 1930 Population still 400 but wait—"Back to the farm" is starting.
- 1931 Woops! Corn is 15c—"The short and simple annals of the poor."
- 1932 Contract let for State Route 141 between Omaha and New Haven.
- 1933 All-day celebration and street dance opens the slab.
- 1934 Gravel hauling is good business, W. P. A. road building.
- 1935 Soldier Bonus, W. P. A., P. W. A., relief and more relief!
- 1936 Howard Pyles opens grocery business.
- 1937 Worst flood in history. New Haven evacuated.
- 1938 Reconstruction. Bates Bros. build home, store building, filling station. Farm Bureau and electricity come to town as C. I. P. S. line is turned on.
- 1939 180 pupils and four teachers move into modern new school building.
- 1940 Population reaches 700—See? Roosevelt begins third term—can you notice the difference?
- 1941 Oil is discovered. War is declared.
- 1942 Sugar—coffee—gasoline—tires rationed. Population 802 as shown by sugar rationing.
- 1943 Sixty-seven of our young men have gone to war. Many people leave to work in ordnance plants.
- WHEE—We made it. Aren't you surprised? We are.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
Washington

July 30, 1942

Dear Mrs. Holland:

I have your letter of July 22. I regret that I am unable to give you a list of the names of the residents of New Haven, Illinois, as reported at the 1940 Census. This would be contrary to the Census Law, which provides that all information obtained from individuals shall be treated in strict confidence and used exclusively for the statistical purposes for which it was obtained. This law has been construed by the Attorney General of the United States to apply to names and addresses.

Very truly yours,

A. ROSS ECKLER,  
Acting Chief Statistician  
for Population.

Mrs. K. O. Holland,  
Norris City, Illinois.

(Now if your name isn't in the book—don't blame us. We tried.)



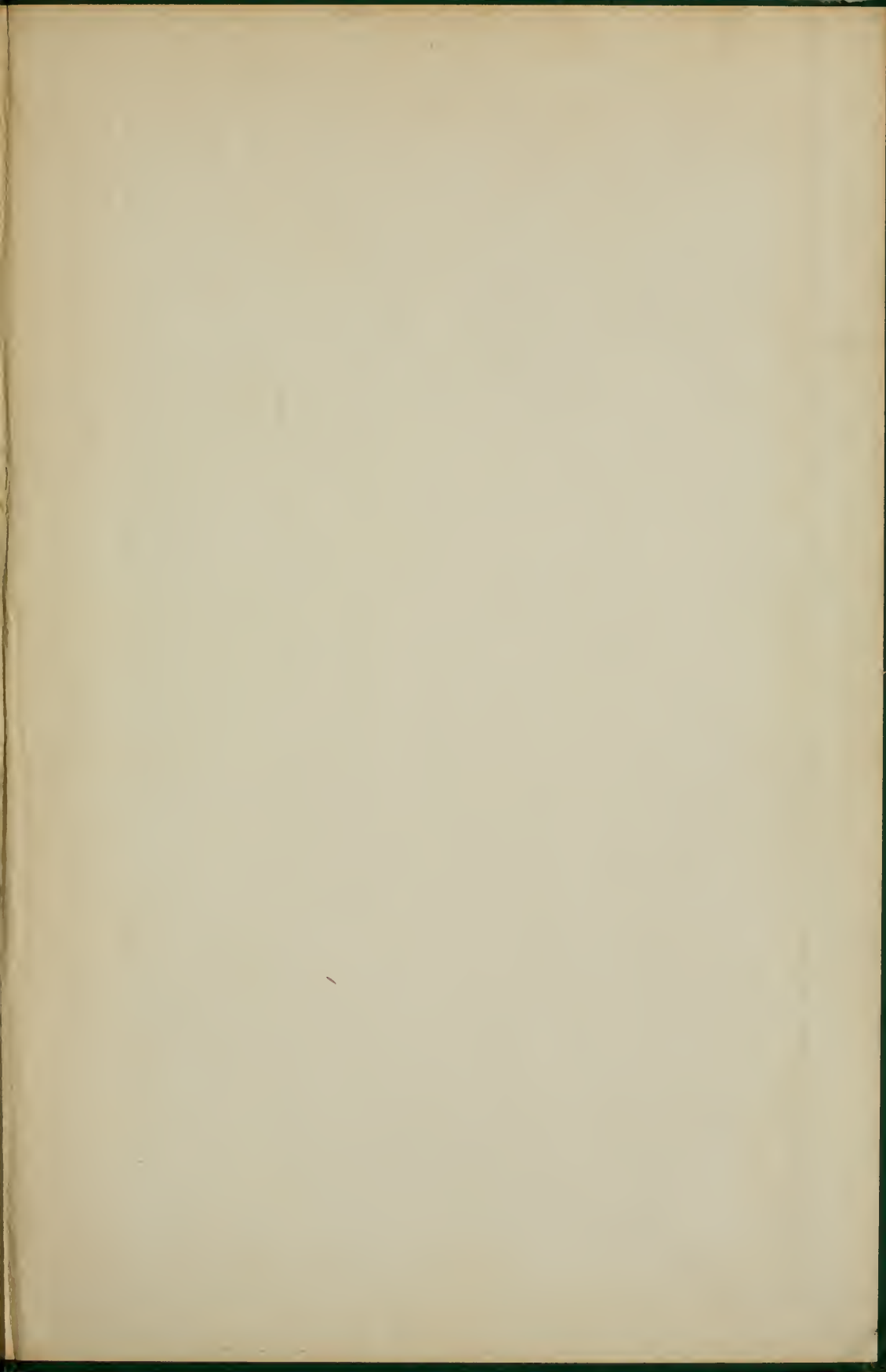












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